GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:320
ANSWERED ON:20.10.2008
NATIONAL STATUS FOR SARDAR SAROVAR PROJECT
Gadhavi Shri Pushpdan Shambhudan

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria being followed for declaring a River Project as a National Project;

(b) whether the Union Government has received any request from the Government of Gujarat to grant a National Status of Infrastructure Project to the Sardar Sarovar Project (SSP); and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) The criteria being followed to declare a project as a National Project is as under:

i) International projects where usage of water in India is required by a treaty or where planning and early completion of the project is necessary in the interest of the country.

ii) Inter-State projects which are dragging on due to non-resolution of inter-state issues relating to sharing of costs, rehabilitation, aspects of power production etc. including river interlinking projects.

iii) Intra-state projects with additional potential of more than 2,00,000 ha. and with no dispute regarding sharing of water and where hydrology is established.

(b) & (c) Yes sir, The Chief Minister of Gujarat has sent a request to Planning Commission to declare Sardar Sarover Project as a National Project. Sardar Sarovar project is already eligible for 90% central grant for the irrigation component of the Project falling under drought prone and tribal area. The Power Houses of the project had already been completed. Till date, the Sardar Sarovar Project has been provided with Central Assistance of Rs. 5375.3585 crore under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) which is highest Central assistance provided to any project in the country.